

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE
POULTRY PROGRAMS, MARKET NEWS BRANCH
60 FORSYTH STREET, SW SUITE 6M80
ATLANTA, GEORGIA 30303**

OFFICE: 404-562-5850 **FAX:** 404-562-5875 **JOHNNY FREEMAN:** 404-562-5870
INTERNET: <http://www.ams.usda.gov/marketnews.htm> **RECORDING:** 404-562-5856

April 1, 2005

**ESTIMATED U.S. LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTER UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
FOR WEEK ENDING 02-Apr-05 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

	CURRENT WEEK 04/02/05	PREVIOUS WEEK 03/26/05
Broiler/fryer	164,514	153,640
Light hens	1,665	1,683
Heavy hens	1,427	1,320

U.S. FOWL SLAUGHTERED IN CANADA

	WEEK ENDING 26-Mar-05 (THOUSAND HEAD)		
	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
Head	110	0	110
Head sltr Comparisons			
Last Week	218	0	218
Same week yr ago	216	11	227
To-date/2005	3,460	11	3,471
To-date/2004	2,938	39	2,977

SOURCE: AGRICULTURE CANADA, POULTRY DEVELOPMENT DIVISION

Total U. S. fowl slaughter in the U. S. and Canada

	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL
Head	1,821	1,356	3,177
Head sltr Comparisons			
Last Week	1,603	1,402	3,005
Same week yr ago	1,470	1,233	2,703
To-date/2005	21,091	15,688	36,779
To-date/2004	18,212	15,245	33,457

**LIVE POULTRY SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION
WEEK ENDING 26-Mar-05 (THOUSAND HEAD)**

	YOUNG CHICKENS	LIGHT HENS	HEAVY HENS	TOTAL HENS
Head	151,161	1,711	1,356	3,067
Avg Wt	5.19	3.23	8.14	5.40
Head sltr comparisons				
Last week	157,335	1,385	1,402	2,787
Same wk yr ago	152,749	1,254	1,222	2,476
Avg Wt	5.16	3.24	8.00	5.59
To-date/2005	1,877,190	17,631	15,677	33,308
To-date/2004	1,842,387	15,274	15,206	30,480

(A) The estimated number of fryers available for marketing based on the 2-week revised average chick placements 6 to 7 weeks earlier was 164.0 million head. Estimated U.S. slaughter for this period 153.0 million head or 11.0 million less than estimated available.

YOUNG CHICKENS SLAUGHTERED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION,
CLASSIFIED BY LIVE WEIGHT, WEEK ENDING 19-Mar-05

	(A) FAST FOOD/FOOD SERVICE 4.20 LBS & DOWN	(B) RETAIL 4.21-5.25 LBS	(C) DEBONING 5.26 LBS & UP
	-----THOUSANDS-----		
Head	29,594	25,484	39,720
Avg Weight	3.57	4.84	6.43
% of total /1	31%	27%	42%
Last week	30,595	19,126	47,714
Avg Weight	3.52	4.68	6.40
% of total /1	31%	20%	49%
Same week, yr ago /2	27,824	20,869	47,669
Avg Weight	3.49	4.76	6.30
% of total /1	29%	22%	49%
To date/2005	294,537	236,792	520,247
To date/2004	289,595	233,826	478,590

/1 MAY NOT TOTAL TO 100% DUE TO ROUNDING

/2 COMPARABLE WEEK

- (A) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the fast food and food service industries. May also include Cornish hens.
- (B) This weight class generally denotes chickens marketed in the retail industry.
- (C) This weight class generally denotes chickens used in further processing. May also include heavy roasters sold in retail channels.

LIVE TURKEYS SLAUGHTERED WEEK ENDING 26-Mar-05
(THOUSAND HEAD)

	YOUNG (B)		YOUNG	OLD	
	HENS	TOMS	BREEDERS	BREEDERS	TOTAL
Head	1,468	2,502	15	6	3,991
Avg Wt	16.03	38.03	26.38	28.44	29.88
Head sltr comparisons					
Last week	1,582	2,517	17	1	4,117
Same wk yr ago	1,808	2,595	48	7	4,458
Avg Wt	15.86	36.62	24.28	27.78	28.05
To-date/2005	18,300	30,039	309	42	48,690
To-date/2004	20,352	29,624	527	97	50,600

SOURCE: USDA/AMS POULTRY PROGRAMS, MARKET NEWS BRANCH.
FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION, PLEASE CALL (404) 562-5850.